



Strategies for Meeting Diverse Learning Needs in Virtual and Hybrid Settings

Training to Go

Session Goals



- Explain diverse learning needs and strategies for identifying them.
- Explore strategies for meeting diverse learning needs in virtual and hybrid settings.
- Intentionally design an activity to meet diverse learning needs.

Defining Diverse Learning Needs



YOU FOR YOUTH



Learning styles
Background knowledge and experiences
Social-emotional needs
English learners

Students with disabilities
Culturally responsive teaching
Access to technology

Learning About Your Students



- Review IEPs.
- Talk to school-day teachers.
- Ask families.
- Do surveys.
- Talk to students.
- Do icebreaker/get-to-know-you activities.
- Observe how students respond to activities.
- Consider performance on tasks.



Meeting Diverse Learning Needs

Group 1: What are strategies for meeting diverse learning needs in person?

Group 2: What are strategies for meeting diverse learning needs in virtual and hybrid settings?

Creating an Inclusive Virtual Space



- Create a welcoming environment.
- Develop shared norms and expectations.
- Teach how to use each virtual platform/feature and include opportunities for practice.
- Engage families.
- Use Universal Design for Learning (UDL) principles.
- Offer participatory response options.
- Incorporate movement and brain breaks.
- Provide offline communication and engagement options.





A Look at Universal Design for Learning

Multiple Means of Engagement

- Offer choice.
- Make learning relevant and meaningful.
- Promote high expectations and build self-motivation.
- Build community and collaboration.

Multiple Means of Representation

- Provide information in multiple ways (e.g., written, visual, auditory).
- Use a variety of materials.
- Use and build on students' background knowledge.
- Guide information processing (scaffold information, provide feedback).

Multiple Means of Action and Expression

- Offer multiple ways to demonstrate learning.
- Use multiple media for communication.
- Encourage goal-setting and self-monitoring of progress.
- Use assistive tools and technology.



Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports

- Keep the same behavior expectations you use in person.
- Teach and practice any online-specific behaviors, such as use of video, audio and chat.
- Focus on evidence-based teaching practices.
 - Provide visual precorrections right on the screen.
 - Follow a routine.
 - Use polling or other tools to create participatory response options.
 - Provide real-time feedback, verbally and through chat. Perhaps your software has stickers or emojis you can use.



Let's Play Meet That Need!

Your sixth-grade students are working on a research project. The learning goal is to answer a question by gathering information from multiple sources, synthesizing findings, and demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation.

How will you plan and implement the activity to meet students' diverse learning needs in a virtual or hybrid setting?

- How will you engage students and keep them motivated?
- How will you present information and ideas?
- How will students demonstrate their learning?
- What virtual accommodations might you offer?
- How will you meet the needs of students with limited access to technology?



Reflection

After today's session...

- Which strategies for meeting diverse learning needs in a virtual or hybrid setting are you most excited to try?
- What potential challenges do you anticipate?
- Which strategies or topics do you want to learn more about?



Equity Power

“If a child can't learn the way we teach, maybe we should teach the way they learn.”

– Ignacio Estrada

